REMARKS

Currently, claims 1-5, 8, 9, and 14 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 9 have been amended. No new matter has been added by way of amendment. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C.§102 Should be Withdrawn

Claims 1-2, 4, 8, and 14 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by PCT Publication No. WO 2006/047516 (Liu *et al.*). Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection should not be applied to the amended claims. Claim 1 as amended is fully supported by U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/540,621, from which the present application claims the benefit. Accordingly, Liu *et al.* is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) with respect to the amended claims.

Claims 1-2, 8, and 14 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by PCT Publication No. WO 2003/087057 (Stokes *et al.*). Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection should not be applied to the amended claims. Claim 1 as amended does not encompass the compounds taught by Stokes *et al.* Accordingly, the claims are novel in view of this reference.

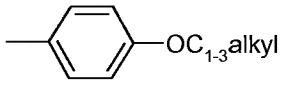
In view of the above amendments and arguments, all grounds for rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 have been overcome. Reconsideration and withdrawal the rejections are requested.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 Should be Withdrawn

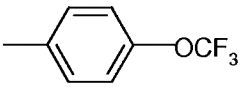
Claims 1-5 and 14 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over PCT Publication No. WO 2004/089286 (Ding *et al.*). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection as applied to the previously presented or currently pending claims.

Ding *et al.* discloses a broad genus of compounds encompassing a wide variety of substituents and asserts that these compounds are useful as inhibitors of PDGR-R, c-Kit, and Bcr-abl. This genus of compounds disclosed in Ding *et al.* overlaps with the genus recited in claim 1. However, Ding *et al.* does not teach that the disclosed compounds can be used to inhibit ROCK activity. In addition, the Ding *et al.* reference does not teach or suggest a class of compounds having the particular combination of substituents recited in

claim 1. For example, Ding *et al.* do not exemplify a compound in which one of the substituents corresponding to Y_1 or Y_2 as shown in claim 1 of the present application is:



In fact, the only substituent exemplified by Ding *et al.* at the equivalent position is:



Accordingly, this reference does not prompt one of skill in the art to modify the substituent on this particular phenyl ring. In addition, the Applicants' representative has searched the Ding *et al.* reference and has not identified a single exemplified compound in which the substituent corresponding to R_2 is aryl optionally substituted with substituted by one or two groups selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, haloC_{1-4}alkyl, haloC_{1-4}alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulfonyl or a group $R_3R_4NSO_2$ (wherein R_3 and R_4 are independently hydrogen or C_{1-4}alkyl), $(CH_2)_{0-3}NHCOOC_{1-4}$alkyl, and a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl group.

According to the Supreme Court, in order to establish a *prima facie* obviousness, it must be shown that there is "a reason that would have prompted a person of ordinary skill in the relevant field to combine the elements in the way the claimed new invention does." *KSR International Co. v. Teleflex Inc.,* 127 S. Ct. 1727 (2007). In the present case, it is argued that it would be obvious to modify the compounds taught by Ding *et al.* to produce the compounds of the present invention. However, the Examiner has not articulated a reason that one of skill in the art would have been motivated to select the PDGR-R/c-Kit/Bcr-abl inhibitors as taught by Ding *et al.* and modify them to produce inhibitors of ROCK activity having the particular combination of substituents recited in claim 1. This is particularly true in view of the extremely large number of possible substituents taught by Ding *et al.* for the positions corresponding to R_2, Y_1, and Y_2 of the compounds recited in claim 1 of the present application. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 3, 8, 9, and 14 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over PCT Publication No. WO 2006/020879 (Clayton *et al.*). Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection should not be applied to the amended claims. Claim 1

as amended is fully supported by U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/540,621, from which the present application claims the benefit. Accordingly, Clayton *et al.* is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) with respect to the amended claims.

In view of the above amendments and arguments, all grounds for rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 have been overcome. Reconsideration and withdrawal the rejections are requested.

Conclusion

It is believed that the current application is now in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is solicited. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

/Kathryn L. Coulter/

Kathryn L. Coulter
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 45,889

Date: October 15, 2009
Customer No. 23347
GlaxoSmithKline
Corporate Intellectual Property
Five Moore Drive, P.O. Box 13398
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-3398
Telephone: (919) 483-1467
Facsimile: (919) 483-7988